

Message Text

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46

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAM-01 IO-14 NIC-01 OMB-01 AID-20 EUR-25

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 DRC-01 /150 W

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R 210715Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5849

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 2276

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IR, BA

SUBJ: MFA COMMENTS ON VISIT OF BAHRAIN'S FOREIGN MINISTER

1. ACCORDING TO MFA CHIEF OF PERSIAN GULF AFFAIRS IZADI, THREE-DAY VISIT OF BAHRAIN'S FOREIGN MINISTER SHEK MUHAMMED BEN MOBARAK TO IRAN LAST WEEK WAS COMPLETELY SUCCESSFUL AND REINFORCED THE WARM AND COOPERATIVE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. ALTHOUGH MOBARAK'S ARRIVAL HAD CAUGHT MANY DIPLOMATS AND REPORTERS BY SURPRISE, IAZDI ASSERTED IT WAS NOT SPUR OF MOMENT VISIT BUT HAD BEEN SCHEDULED LONG AGO. IN TALKS WITH FON MIN KHALATBARI AND OTHER GOI OFFICIALS MOBARAK EXPRESSED FULL AGREEMENT ON NEED FOR COOPERATION TO MAINTAIN SECURITY OF GULF AND PREVENT SUBVERSION IN SMALLER STATE IN AREA. HE WAS CONFIDENT HIS GOVERNMENT COULD MAINTAIN STABILITY AND INTERNAL SECURITY OF BAHRAIN. PRINCIPAL CONCRETE RESULT OF VISIT ACCORDING TO IAZDI WAS AGREEMENT TO EXPAND CULTURAL RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTIRES, BEGINNING WITH AN EXCHANGE OF STUDENTS.

2. IZADI DID NOT KNOW WHETHER BAHRAIN'S INTENTIONS REGARDING COMIDEASTFORCE HAD BEEN DISCUSSED, BUT HE TOOK OCCASION TO REITERATE GOI VIEW THAT QTE GLOBAL END QTE POWERS SHOULD LEAVE SECURITY OF GULF TO LITTORAL POWERS. HE RECOGNIZED, HOWEVER, THAT SOVIETS HAD MOVED IN LONG AGO AND US FORCES HAD ARRIVED LATER AS A BALANCE.

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HELMS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MINISTERIAL VISITS, MILITARY BASES, EDUCATIONAL & CULTURAL EXCHANGE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 MAR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974TEHRAN02276
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740059-1067
From: TEHRAN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740324/aaaaawwh.tel
Line Count: 61
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15-Aug-2002 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <09 JAN 2003 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MFA COMMENTS ON VISIT OF BAHRAIN'S FOREIGN MINISTER
TAGS: PFOR, IR, BA, US, (MOBARAK, SHEK MUHAMMED BEN)
To: STATE MANAMA
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005